REMARKS

The non-final office action that was mailed August 24, 2007, rejected all pending claims 1-24. Applicants have added new claims 25-26. The amendments add no new matter, and are fully supported by Applicants' specification as originally filed, for example at Figure 3, at page 12, line 18 to page 13, line 1, and at page 15, lines 1-12. Claims 1-26 are pending. Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

Applicants also request that the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statement filed with this reply, and provide a signed PTO Form 1449 with the next Office communication.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-2, 4-6, 10-11, 13-15, and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,062,502 to Kesler ("Kesler"). Of these, claims 1 and 10 are independent. Claims 2, 4-6, and 19-21 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1; claims 11, 13-15, and 22-24 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 10.

Claim 1 recites a method of generating an electronic report from a list view. The method includes "providing, in a first application, a list view of data objects, the list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects." The method also includes "receiving a user selection of at least one object field," and "generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field." The method further includes "launching, after generating the output file, the external reporting application and generating the tabulated report using the launched external reporting application, the tabulated report comprising the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field."

Kesler relates to generating a user interface for a relational database. See Abstract. The user interface (UI) architecture is tightly coupled with the structure of metadata relating to entities, entity fields, entity relationships, and entity search paths. See col. 13, lines 4-6. Data may be displayed in the UI, and the data display is list-driven. See col. 13, line 24. All data lists are based on database views. See col. 13, lines 24-25. Menus can be generated from data lists

by right-mouse clicking on the list or using the CTRL-M key combination on a keyboard. *See* col. 13, lines 48-50. An "Export" menu option can be selected to export an entire data list to one of several file formats using an export wizard. *See* Col. 29, lines 51-52. Information may be extracted for a predefined report using a report writer such as Crystal Reports or BusinessObjects®. *See* col. 13, lines 58-61.

Kesler does not anticipate or render obvious the subject matter set forth in Applicants' claim 1, and discloses a technique that is very different, for several reasons, from the method recited in Applicants' claim 1.

First, Kesler fails to disclose or suggest "launching, after generating the output file, the external reporting application." Indeed, Kesler does not disclose launching the external reporting application at all. Kesler's disclosure of the Component Object Model (COM) that provides communication interaction between software components is insufficient to anticipate Applicants' claim 1 recitation of launching an external reporting application. For example, Kesler discloses that COM can be used to allow Component A to communicate with Component B, but does not disclose that an external reporting application can be launched after generating an output file. In fact, Kesler teaches away from launching an external reporting application because Kesler discloses that COM is used to permit communication between components, implying that each of the components are presently running when such communication begins. Moreover, as described above, Applicants' claim 1 recites launching the external reporting application "after generating the output file," and again, Kesler does not disclose or suggest this feature. If the Examiner chooses to maintain the rejection, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate where Kesler discloses this feature of Applicants' claim 1.

Next, Kesler does not disclose or suggest "receiving a user selection of at least one object field," and "generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report . . . [that] include[s] the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field," as recited in claim 1. Kesler discloses passing a primary key value of a selected record to a report writer using COM (*see* column 29, lines 54-57), where a primary key value uniquely identifies a single row (*see* Table 1, definition of "Primary Key"). This is very different

from the method disclosed by Applicants' claim 1, where user selection of at least one object

field is received. One non-limiting example of how this aspect of Applicants' claim 1 may be

implemented is shown in Applicants' specification at FIGS. 3-4 and described at page 11, lines

7-12 and page 12, lines 15-32. As shown and described, a user may select one or more grid

columns that correspond to object fields of the list view (that is, the columns shown in FIG. 3 in

this example), such that an output file may be generated, where the output file can be used by an

external reporting application to generate a tabulated report to include the attributes

corresponding to the received at least one object field. The process disclosed by Kesler is

actually similar in several respects to the Microsoft® Outlook® example that Applicants

describe in the background section of the present application, where a particular data object is

selected (*see* Applicants' background section at page 2, lines 12-24), rather than one or more

object fields, as recited in Applicants' claim 1.

     Neither does Kesler render these aspects of Applicants' claim 1 obvious. For example,

there are advantages to the method of Applicants' claim 1 that are not contemplated by Kesler.

A user of the method described in Applicants' claim 1 is able to select a subset of the available

object fields and may initiate creation of a report in an external reporting application that

includes only attributes corresponding to the selected subset of object fields. This feature is

more particularly recited in new claims 25-26. In this fashion, a user may select only those

object fields of interest for a particular report, such that data objects may be displayed in the

report with attributes corresponding to the selected object fields, and not with attributes

corresponding to non-selected object fields. This may provide flexibility in report generation in

a way that is not possible using the methods disclosed by Kesler. For example, if a user of the

Kesler system wanted to create a report with a subset of the available object fields, the user

would have to create a report as disclosed in Kesler and then manually delete (e.g., using the

external reporting application) columns from the generated report that correspond to non-desired

object fields. Also, a user of the method described in Applicants' claim 1 need not be concerned

with separately launching a particular external reporting tool or multiple reporting tools, and may

instead focus on identifying desired report content from the list view of data objects. This may

facilitate ease of use, as the separate step of launching an external reporting application may be avoided.

Thus, claim 1, and dependent claims 2, 4-6, and 19-21 are not anticipated by Kesler, and Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejections of these claims.

Claim 10 recites a computer-readable medium with program instructions stored thereon, that when executed perform the method of claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, claim 10, as well as dependent claims 11, 13-15, and 22-24, is also not anticipated by Kesler. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejections of these claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 7-9, 12, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Kesler in view of various other references. Claims 3 and 7-9 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and claims 12 and 16-18 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 10.

As described above, claims 1 and 10 each define subject matter that is patentable over Kesler. The other relied-upon references do not cure the deficiencies of Kesler with respect to either claim 1 or claim 10. As such, claims 1 and 10 each define subject matter that is patentable over the references of record, whether alone or in combination, as do dependent claims 3, 7-9, 12, and 16-18. Accordingly, Applicants ask the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of claims 3, 7-9, 12, and 16-18.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that each of claims 1-26 is in condition for allowance and ask the Examiner to issue a notice of allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above
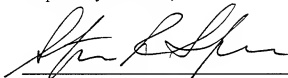
may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or

other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as

an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this

paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of

unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-1050 in the amounts of $1050.00 for the Petition

for Extension of Time fee and $100 for the additional claims fee. Please apply any other charges

or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

                                              Respectfully submitted,

Date: _Feb 22, 2008_   _____

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